

CLAIMSWhat is claimed is:

5 1. A process for applying and curing a powder coating which comprises
the steps of (1) applying the powder coating to a substrate and (2)
irradiation the applied powder coating with near infrared (NIR)
radiation using NIR emitters, wherein the NIR radiation is restricted
by filtration of the wavelength to a wavelength range of 250 to 3000
10 nm, with a primary focus of the radiation in a wavelength range from
750 to 1200 nm.

15 2. Process according to claim 1 wherein the radiation spectrum of the
NIR radiation is restricted by filtration to a wavelength range of 750 to
1800 nm.

3. Process according to claim 1 wherein a combination is used of the
NIR irradiation with a conventional heat source.

20 4. Process according to claim 3 wherein the conventional heat source is
selected from the group consisting of infrared radiation, convection
heat and gas infrared radiation emitters.

25 5. Process according to claim 1 wherein the NIR radiation is filtered by
filters selected from the group consisting of borosilicate glass, silica
glass and vitreous ceramic.

6. Process according to claim 5 wherein the filters are coated on one or
both sides with absorbent or reflective substances.

30 7. Process according to claim 1 wherein the powder coating is cured in
a period from 0.5 to 60 seconds.

8. Process according to claim 1 wherein three-dimensional substrates are coated and cured.
9. Substrates coated and cured by the process according to claim 1.